

Springerville – Eagar
Joint Council
Minutes
December 4, 2008
Springerville Council Chambers
6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Springerville: Mary Nedrow Mayor, Bill Lucas, Eric Baca and Ron Thebeau

Eagar: Kim Holaway Mayor, Byron Smith, James Nelson, Dustin Sanders

Staff Members:

Springerville: Steve West Town Manager, Val Cordova Town Clerk, Larisa Bogardus

Eagar: Eva Wilson Town Clerk

Springerville Town Manager Steve West said he would facilitate the meeting and welcomed everyone to the joint council meeting. He explained that the idea behind this meeting is to discuss things that be done jointly for the communities such as an event for the Fourth of July or numerous other events where both councils are not locked into the politics. He explained that the theory of both Mayors tonight is to try to promote an event on an even keel and get back to the things that are smaller in nature before trying to work on something larger. He stated that this would be an open discussion on the theory that this is how ideas are built. He turned the meeting over to Mayor Nedrow.

1. Council Roll Call: Dustin Sanders/Eagar, Ron Thebeau/ Springerville, James Nelson/Eagar, Eric Baca/Springerville , Bill Lucas/Springerville, Byron Smith/ Eagar, Kim Holaway/ Eagar and Mary Nedrow/Springerville
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve West.
3. Mayor Nedrow thanked everyone for agreeing to have a joint meeting. She said she and Mayor Holaway put their heads together and decided that they needed to do something to help promote tourism because it's what drives these communities. They want to bring people here to showcase our communities and in order to accomplish this they need buy in from both town councils. They asked if council members were interested in working together to do some type of event that would bring people to our valley. Mayor Nedrow said they didn't realize how many people from different areas come here to watch the Fourth of July fireworks until we stopped having them.

She announced that tonight's meeting is not to discuss money but how both towns can work together cohesively to bring an event to fruition. They are asking for both council's buy in on this project without prejudices from either town. Her suggestion was possibly having a two day event and offering the public things to do to keep them here. If there is interest from the councils they would like to have another meeting with concrete ideas and narrow down a specific date for an event.

She again stated that their idea is to draw people to our communities and work cohesively with each other to make it happen.

Comments heard from the council members there is nothing to keep people in town for the 4th of July and that we should try to bring the fireworks back and research ways to collect donations.

Mr. West told the councils that he had talked to the fireworks people about bringing the fireworks back. They expressed interest and said they would do presentations to both councils. As for events he recommended bringing in the Chamber Director Jennifer Prochnow to help coordinate.

Jennifer said that 4th of July is a busy time and suggested they consider having an event separate from that to bring people here more than once. She said she's received calls asking if there is anything going on during Memorial Day weekend.

Councilman Nelson voiced concerns with prior commitments associated with the Fourth of July and suggested considering a holiday prior to the Fourth of July with an event to kick off the summer and another to end it.

Mayor Nedrow suggested an event with street vendors with lower fees so it isn't so costly for them and having the restaurants place booths in front of their business to draw people in.

The idea of having an event on one holiday while marketing the next event was discussed.

Larisa Bogardus agreed with that idea but also asked that they keep in mind that an event has to be grown and expectations need to be reasonable. She also suggested tying in an event with the Hummingbird Banding in July.

Building on the ATV event with a small taste of ATV riding on Memorial Day to promote the September Jamboree with an Arts & Crafts fair with coupon books to shop locally was suggested as well as an event that gives people a choice of things to do.

Councilman Thebeau suggested putting trails around both towns for horse riding. A suggestion was made to have multiple trails for hiking, biking, motorized too.

Councilman Sanders commented that the town's restaurants and hotels lost a lot of revenue when the softball tournaments went away.

The suggestion was to pick a date like Memorial Day because it is the beginning of summer. This would give people something to do and they could promote the next event to bring people back several times during the summer.

Councilman Baca suggested all day family oriented events for the 4th of July with a live band playing.

Councilman Thebeau suggested hunting contests and shooting competitions.

Steve said in past times they used to bring a dump truck full of sawdust with coins, dump it on the street and the kids would dig for coins and there used to be street dances.

The consensus of those council members present was that they should plan a first event for Memorial Day weekend and promote the next event on the Fourth of July.

Steve cautioned the councils to promote the event as a joint effort by both towns so people can see that both councils are working together. He also asked that should any issues or problems arise that they bring them to the attention of their town managers so they can address them.

The list of ideas and suggestions from tonight's meeting are:

Free tours of the Cushman Museum and Casa Malpais, rides out into the forest on ATV's or tours of the forest, softball tournaments, dances on Main Street, Arts and Crafts show on Main Street, coupon books, bar-b-que, breakfast by both fire departments, tour the schools, kite event, walk or run a thon, chili cook-off, gun competitions, overnight outing in the park with movies, big game contests, shooting competitions, truck load of sawdust and coins, live band, street dances, hiking, biking and horse trails and tying event with Hummingbird Banding.

They were asked to bring more ideas to the next meeting along with a list of pros and cons on the ideas discussed tonight. Once concrete plans have been made to have an event they need to involve the businesses.

Mayor Holaway said she would like to get ideas from people in the community.

Steve asked the council members when they would like to meeting again and if they would like to have two meetings in January. The consensus being they did. The first was scheduled for January 2nd and the second for Thursday January 29th at 6:00p.m.

The council members asked for a list of email addresses and phone numbers in case they would like to communicate about the ideas discussed tonight. They were cautioned about open meeting laws and email communication and advised not hit the "reply to all" button.

Springerville Town Council mailing and email addresses are attached on the last two pages of the minutes:

Motion by Councilmember Thebeau with a second by Councilmember Baca to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Mary Nedrow, Mayor
Town of Springerville

Kim Holaway, Mayor
Town of Eagar

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Springerville and Eagar Town Councils in a joint meeting on Thursday, December 4, 2008. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this 15th day of December 2008.

Town Clerk

Town Council

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EAGAR TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

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